GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
CIVIL AVIATION
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3011
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2015
Medical Standards for Pilots and Flight Crew
Bhamre Dr. Subhash Ramrao;Kothapalli Smt. Geetha

Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the medical standards set for pilots and flight crew of the Indian Carriers along with the cockpit policy adopted by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA);

(b) whether DGCA proposes to review the said rules/cockpit policy and adopt a four-level Psychometric tests for pilots to prevent the occurrence of incidents like German/wings crash;

(c) if so, the details and the present status thereof;

(d) whether DGCA has set up any panel in this regard and if so, the details thereof along with the suggestions made by the panel and the action taken by the Government thereon;

(e) the other safety/precautionary measures being taken by the Government in this regard; and

(f) whether Air India is likely to ground nearly 125 cabin crew personnel, including airhostesses, for not maintaining the weight standards prescribed by DGCA and if so, the details ad the present status thereof?

Answer

Minister of State in the Ministry of CIVIL AVIATION
(Dr Mahesh Sharma)

(a) the medical standards of pilots / co-pilots for commercial flying are equivalent to the medical standards of Class-I medical assessment enumerated in International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) Annexure 1, Chapter 6 and medical requirements laid down by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) as per Civil Aviation Requirements (CAR) Section 7, Part I dated 26th August 1999.

In addition, DGCA has issued Aeronautical Information Circulars (AICs) on certain medical conditions for experienced pilots as guidelines. These are available on DGCA website (www.dgca.nic.in).

(b) to (e) With regard to cockpit policy, DGCA has already Circular 3/2010 regarding manning of cockpit during non-critical phases of flight. It mandated that in cases one pilot leaves the flight deck, cabin crew shall in the flight deck and will occupy one of the observer seat.

DGCA had also constituted a working group to carry out study and recommend "Policy on Manning of Cockpit and Medical/Psychometric Test for Flight Crew". The working group has submitted its report in July 2015. The summary of recommendation of the report is placed as Annexure-A.

Further, Director General (Medical Services), Indian Air force, an adviser to DGCA, in the matter of flight crew related medical issues in Civil Aviation, has also examined the report of the above working group and has agreed to its recommendations.

(f) Air India is not grounding such cabin crew. However, time is given to them to reduce their weight.